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TO:

Examiner Leon B. Lankford, Jr.

FROM: Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D.

(Reg. No. 45,332)

COMPANY: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

DATE:

March 2, 2004

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2

(INCLUDING COVER SHEET)

SUBJECT/MESSAGE:

U.S. Patent Application Docket No. UTR-103XC1

MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF

EFFECTIVE ROOT NODULATION IN LEGUMES

(John T. Loh and Gary Stacey)

Serial No. 09/909,735; filed July 20, 2001

ATTACHMENT:

Communication (2 pgs)

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P. 02

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Examining Group 1651 Patent Application

Communication

Frank Casewichen L

Docket No. UTR-103XC1 Serial No. 09/909,735

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Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D., Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

Leon B. Lankford, Jr.

Art Unit

1651

Applicants

John T. Loh, Gary Stacey

Serial No. Filed

09/909,735 July 20, 2001

Confirm. No.

2435

For

Materials and Methods for the Enhancement of Effective Root

Nodulation in Legumes

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION

Sin

The undersigned has recently been informed that this application has recently become eligible to claim Small Entity Status by virtue of the termination of a license agreement between the University of Tennessee Research Foundation (a small entity and licensor of this application) and its large entity licensee. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27, the undersigned now claims such status (Small Entity Status) for this application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that all future fees in this matter be charged as small entity fees.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D.

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